

# SOUTHERN MAGNOLIA

## *Magnolia grandiflora* L.

OTHER COMMON NAMES: Bull-bay, Evergreen magnolia, Magnolia, Laurel-leaved magnolia.

FORM: Pyramidal habit; 60-100 or rarely 120-125 feet high, tall straight trunk 2-3 feet in diameter, occasionally 4-4 1/2 feet in diameter, rather small spreading branches.

BARK: 1/2-3/4 inch thick, gray or light brown, covered with appressed scales.

TWIGS: At first hoary-tomentose, second year slightly tomentose and much roughened by elevated leaf scars.

LEAVES: Alternate, simple, elliptic to oblong-obovate or ovate, acute and bluntly pointed or acuminate at apex, cuneate at base, green and shining above, lower side more or less coated with rusty tomentum, 5-8 inches long, 2-3 inches wide, deciduous in the spring of their second year.

FLOWERS: Appear from April or May until July or August, perfect, fragrant, borne on stout hoary-tomentose pedicels 1/2-1 inch long, 7-8 inches across, sepals petaloid, petals 6, sometimes 9 or 12.

FRUIT: Rusty-tomentose, 3-4 inches long, 1 1/2-2 1/2 inches thick, seeds obovoid or triangular obovoid, more or less flattened, 1/2 inch long.

WINTER BUDS: Pale or rusty-tomentose, the terminal 1-2 1/2 inch long.

WOOD: Hard, creamy-white, turns brown soon after exposure, heartwood hardly distinguishable from the sapwood of 60-80 layers of annual growth.

USES: Landscaping. Historical uses: baskets, crates, furniture, veneer.

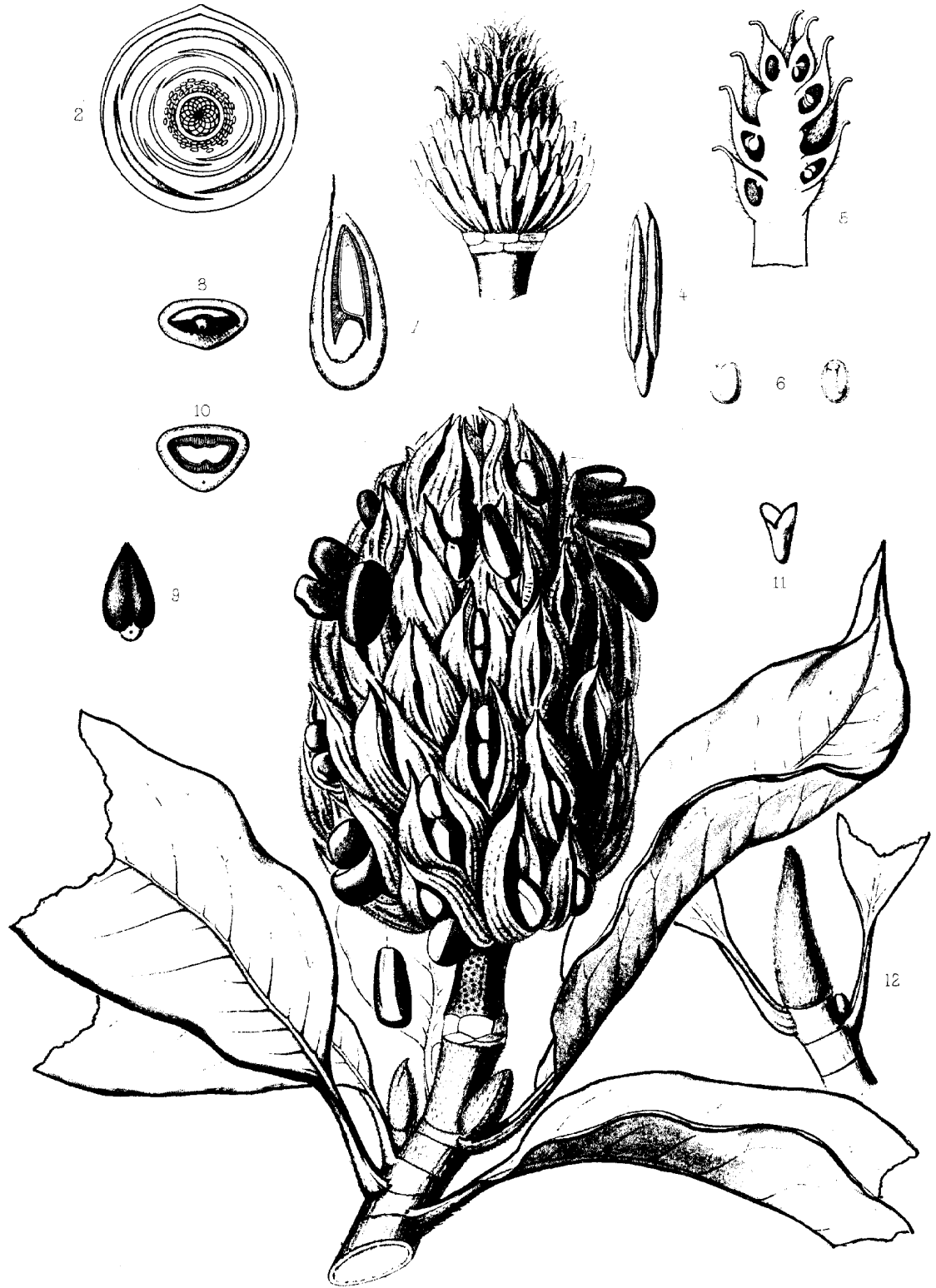
HABITAT: Rich moist soil on borders of streams and pine-barren ponds.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS: An evergreen tree; fruit and branchlets tomentose.

DISTRIBUTION IN ALBAMA: Statewide.

### EXPLANATION OF PLATE

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| 1. A fruit                                 | 8. A seed, the base of the pulpy portion of the testa removed showing the stony interior portion |
| 2. Diagram of the flower                   | 9. A seed, the fleshy part of the testa removed, showing the grooved stony portion               |
| 3. A flower, the calyx and corolla removed | 10. Cross section of a seed, enlarged  |
| 4. A stamen                                | 11. An embryo, much enlarged   |
| 5. Vertical section of the gynoecium       | 12. A winter-bud, natural size   |
| 6. An ovule                                |  |
| 7. Vertical section of a seed              |  |



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